EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF VERMONT WINDHAM DIVISION

BRIAN WUOTI; KAITLYN WUOTI; MICHAEL GANTT; and REBECCA GANTT,

Case No.: 2:24-cv-00614

Plaintiffs,

v.

CHRISTOPHER WINTERS, in his official capacity as Commissioner of the Vermont Department for Children and Families, ARYKA RADKE, in her official capacity as Deputy Commissioner of the Family Services Division, and STACEY EDMUNDS, in her official capacity as Director of Residential Licensing & Special Investigations,

AGREEMENT ON ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY AND CLAIMS OF PRIVILEGE

Defendants.

The parties agree to the following regarding electronic discovery and claims of privilege:

I. Production of electronically stored information

The parties shall produce documents:

- a. In PDF format with accompanying metadata or in native format with accompanying metadata;
- b. As text-searchable;
- c. With metadata in the following fields (to the extent such data was generated and embedded in the native files subject to production): document type; custodian; document creator; date created; person who last edited; and, for emails, sender, recipients, subject, attachments, and date and time sent;
- d. With a unique number (Bates number); and

Unless the parties otherwise agree with respect to a particular production, they shall produce load files with the production of documents through a document management or litigation support database system that includes metadata and preserve "parent-child" relationships (e.g., association between emails and attachments) and unitization (original document boundaries). Should any technical or other limitation arise with respect to a party's ability to satisfy the terms of this paragraph, the parties agree to discuss in good faith other potential production arrangements.

II. Hard-copy documents

Parties may produce hard-copy documents as text-searchable PDF files. Such productions shall preserve document breaks (if not indicated in the document itself), and also sets forth the custodian and stored location associated with each produced document. Each file shall be named with a unique number (Bates number).

III. Privilege and Confidentiality

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d), the production of any documents shall not constitute a waiver by the producing party of any applicable privilege. Upon receiving notice that a document produced in discovery is protected by privilege, the receiving party must return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and any copies it has and must not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved. Additionally, parties agree to confer on a confidentiality agreement to address any claims of confidentiality and before making any non-public identifying information (like address, phone numbers, or email addresses) part of the public record.

IV. Electronic service

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(b)(2)(F), the parties consent to service via email. The parties agree that service via email will be deemed to have occurred as of the date the serving party sends the email.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of October, 2024.

/s/ Jonathan T. Rose

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